

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH
LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE



Sermon Date: 02/02/2020

Text(s): Numbers 5:1 – 4

Title: Castle On The Cloud

Preacher: Rev Collin See

(The sermon recording and slides are available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

(Read the Bible texts, quietly or aloud)

Numbers 9:15–23 (ESV)

15 On the day that the tabernacle was set up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the testimony. And at evening it was over the tabernacle like the appearance of fire until morning.

16 So it was always: the cloud covered it by day and the appearance of fire by night.

17 And whenever the cloud lifted from over the tent, after that the people of Israel set out, and in the place where the cloud settled down, there the people of Israel camped.

18 At the command of the LORD the people of Israel set out, and at the command of the LORD they camped. As long as the cloud rested over the tabernacle, they remained in camp.

19 Even when the cloud continued over the tabernacle many days, the people of Israel kept the charge of the LORD and did not set out.

20 Sometimes the cloud was a few days over the tabernacle, and according to the command of the LORD they remained in camp; then according to the command of the LORD they set out.

21 And sometimes the cloud remained from evening until morning. And when the cloud lifted in the morning, they set out, or if it continued for a day and a night, when the cloud lifted they set out.

22 Whether it was two days, or a month, or a longer time, that the cloud continued over the tabernacle, abiding there, the people of Israel remained in camp and did not set out, but when it lifted they set out.

23 At the command of the LORD they camped, and at the command of the LORD they set out. They kept the charge of the LORD, at the command of the LORD by Moses.

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect on key themes and questions in the text)



1. **Why did God use a pillar of cloud to guide the Israelites? Maybe it was to demonstrate God's authority over the elements and by that, to give the Israelites confidence in God's protection. Feeling weak and vulnerable is a common human feeling. When was the last time you felt weak and vulnerable? Please share how you really felt during that time.**

2. **Another possible reason God provided the pillar of cloud was to give the Israelites continued assurance of His presence. The pillar of cloud stayed with the people. It never left them. How does this speak to you, about the presence of God? Do you sometimes have the feeling that God's presence was suddenly not with you?**

3. **The Israelites never knew how long they were to camp. It could be for one month and it could be for just one night. This required constant attentiveness on their part, to maintain their focus on God, represented by the pillar of cloud. If you were one of the Israelites then, camping and moving with Moses as your leader, would you have complained about this "unpredictable" lifestyle?**



RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate and apply God's word to our daily lives)

- 1. What are some main challenges we Christians face living in the 21st century as we try to live closely with God? Is science and technology causing us to put more confidence in technology than in God? Is the media causing us to lack the ability to stay attentive to God's voice because the entertainment world appears more exciting and entertaining?**

- 2. Revelations 21:1-2 paints for us the picture of the New Jerusalem coming from the clouds. What is your understanding of the New Jerusalem? According to this understanding, what is your posture in life (way of life) concerning our current "Jerusalem" and the New Jerusalem?**

REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for weekly guide)

- Pray for one another to have confidence in God and be constantly attentive to His voice so that we might always be ready to receive and obey His commands.
- Pray for others in your family or circle of friends who need prayer support.
- Remember to pray for our church and churches in Singapore to continue as godly witnesses to Singapore and beyond.